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From: "res0xiom" <res0xiom@verizon.net>
To: <wvogl@samhsa.gov>
Date: 7/6/04 11:10PM
Subject: Urgent message re: Docket Number 04-7984

To whom it may concern regarding Docket Number 04-7984.

I am a paruretic, which means I suffer from shy bladder, a medical disorder affecting the ability to urinate in public. This disorder may sound laughable or a "get over it" condition, but believe me it is far more serious than that. I have lived with this condition for over forty years and it is very debilitating and very difficult to deal with in modern society. I lived with drug testing rules similar to those currently under debate and finally could no longer cope as it was mentally draining. I even began worry about being called to provide a urine sample and the hours of agony when I could not urinate with someone waiting on me. I am not, nor have I ever been a user of narcotics or alcohol, but the suspicion is there if one is unable to urinate ON DEMAND. I was an outstanding employee and was highly motivated, productive and a positive influence on my co-workers. My former employer did not want me to leave but it was my only option because management would not change their drug testing policy. Most paruretics won't tell you they are leaving their employer because of drug testing policies as it is embarrassing and because of the stigma that would be associated with making such a statement.

I implore you to provide alternate drug tests so that other paruretic are not forced to leave their career as I had to. I believe SAMHSA should immediately mandate the use of alternative tests such as oral fluid, hair samples or sweat patches for anyone who requests, but especially for those who suffer from shy bladder. I believe that it would benefit the employer and the employee and enable anyone who suffers from this condition to retain their job and dignity.

Sincerely,

Stephen Howe